



Profile Report - State

Graduating Class 2020

South Dakota



New to your 2020 Profile Report

Upon registration, students are now given the option to select gender values that include Male, Female, Another Gender, and Prefer Not to Respond. With this change, ACT Profile Reports will report outcomes for Males, Females, and those students providing Other Responses.

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We are pleased to provide this 2020 Graduating Class ACT Profile Report. This report summarizes the preparation and performance of your 2020 graduates who took the ACT as sophomores, juniors, or seniors under standard- or extended-time conditions and achieved a college reportable composite score. The most recent set of test information is used in your report for students testing more than once.

This report focuses on:

Performance - student test performance in the context of college readiness

Access - number of your graduates exposed to college entrance testing and the percent of race/ethnicity participation

Course Selection - percent of students pursuing a core curriculum

Course Rigor - impact of rigorous coursework on achievement

College Readiness - percent of students meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores in each content area

Awareness - extent to which student aspirations match performance

Articulation - colleges and universities to which your students send test results

Each year, test data for a school, district, and the state represents a different cohort of students. ACT encourages educators to focus on trends (3, 5, 10 years), not year-to-year changes. Such changes can represent normal – even expected – fluctuations. On the other hand, trend lines offer more insight into what is happening in a school, district, or the state.

Furthermore, ACT encourages educators to measure student performance in the context of college readiness measures. The focus should be on the number and percentage of students who met or exceeded ACT's College Readiness Benchmark Scores, a measure that is much more meaningful and understandable than an average composite score for a group of students.

The ACT is a curriculum-based measure of college readiness. ACT components include:

- Tests of academic achievement in English, math, reading, science, STEM, and (optional) ELA and writing
- High school grade and course information
- Student Profile Section
- Career Interest Inventory

The ACT:

Every few years, ACT conducts the **ACT National Curriculum Survey** to ensure its curriculum-based assessment tools accurately measure the skills high school teachers teach and instructors of entry-level college courses expect. The ACT is the only college readiness test designed to reflect the results of such a survey.

ACT's **College and Career Readiness Standards** are sets of statements intended to help students, parents and educators understand the meaning of test scores. The standards relate test scores to the types of skills needed for success in high school and beyond. They serve as a direct link between what students have learned and what they are ready to do next. The ACT is the only college readiness test for which scores can be tied directly to standards. College and Career Readiness Standards to the Classroom interpretive guides can be found at www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html.

Only the ACT reports **College Readiness Benchmark Scores** – A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses, which include English Composition, Algebra, Social Science, Biology, STEM and ELA. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college.

College Course/Course Area	ACT Score	Benchmark Score
English Composition	English	18
Algebra	Mathematics	22
Social Sciences	Reading	22
Biology	Science	23
STEM	STEM	26
ELA	ELA	20

For more information, go to www.act.org

How to Improve Scores and Increase College Readiness

31% of your students met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores (Table 1.1). To improve students' scores and increase the percentage of students identified as college ready, ACT suggests:

PROVIDING ACCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS TO TAKE THE ACT: 6,049 of your students are included in this report (the 'cohort'). Increasing access insures that more students have the opportunity to consider college and allows the reader to use this report to evaluate how well courses and instructional programs are preparing students for college and work.

MAKING CORE CURRICULUM A PRIORITY: Emphasize the need for all students to develop college and work ready skills, regardless of postsecondary aspirations. 85% of the students in the cohort reported taking courses that would be considered 'Core or More' (Table 1.4).

MAKING SURE STUDENTS ARE TAKING THE RIGHT KINDS OF COURSES: Table 3.8 reports 3% of the cohort took less than three years of math courses. Of these students, 11% were college ready. 15% of the cohort reported taking a course sequence of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. 17% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 57% of the students who took 3 or more years of math beyond Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry were college ready. Getting more students ready for Algebra prior to 9th grade will increase the chances that students will be prepared for and take advanced-level math courses.

Similarly, Table 3.8 reports 5% of the cohort took less than three years of natural science courses. 28% of these students were college ready. In comparison, 46% of students who took at least three years of science coursework were college ready.

EVALUATING RIGOR OF COURSES: Table 3.1 reports the percentage of students falling in each of the ACT College and Career Readiness Standards score ranges. For example, approximately 41% of the cohort fall into the lowest three Mathematics score ranges. To increase these students' achievement, identify the standards they should focus on next by accessing ACT's College and Career Readiness Standards at www.act.org/content/act/en/education-and-career-planning/college-and-career-readiness-standards.html.

PLAN GUIDANCE ACTIVITIES BASED ON STUDENTS' CAREER AND COLLEGE ASPIRATIONS: Data in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 enable the reader to determine if aspirations are consistent with academic performance and whether, among students with similar aspirations, academic performance is consistent across racial/ethnic groups.

For more information on interpreting data in this report, or to learn how ACT can help your students improve their readiness for college and the workplace, contact ACT Customer Service at 319-337-1365 or customerservices@act.org.

Section I

Executive Summary

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Figure 1.1. Average Composite Scores: 5 Years of Testing*



Figure 1.2. Percent Meeting 3 or 4 Benchmarks: 5 Years of Testing*

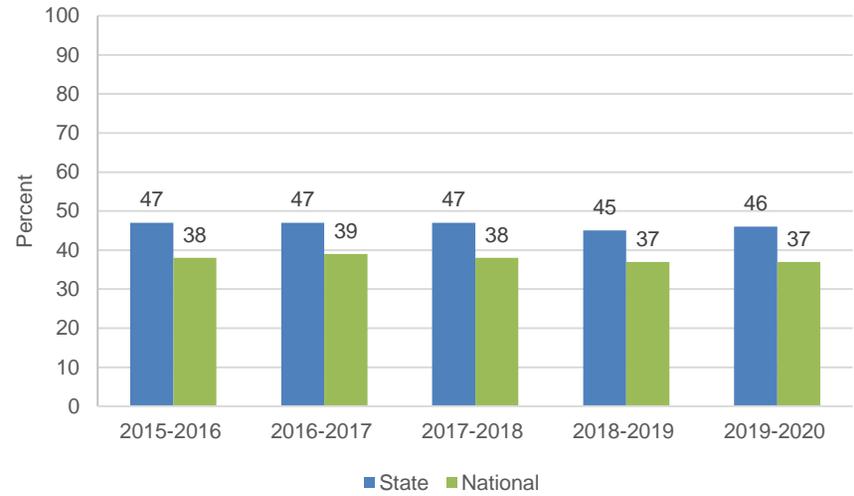


Figure 1.3. Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark: 5 Years of Testing*

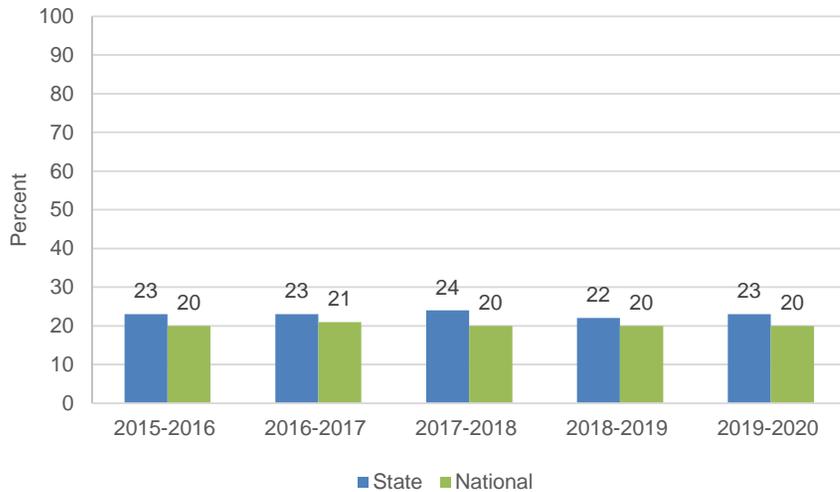
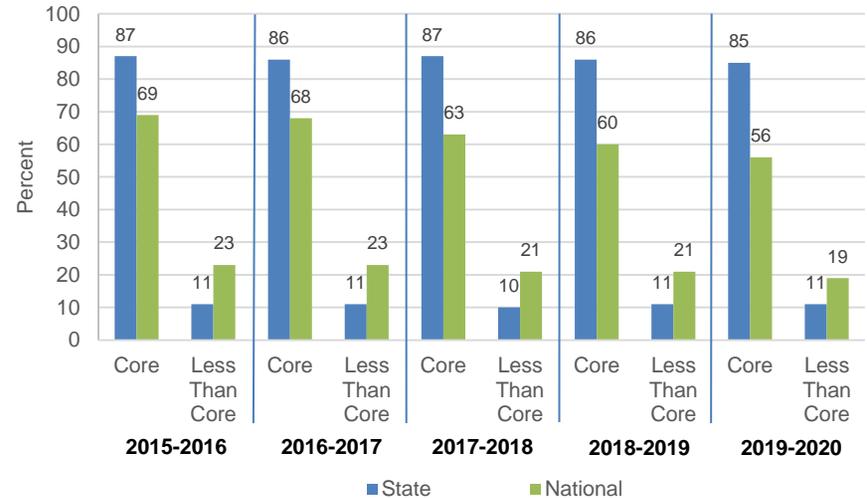


Figure 1.4. Percent Taking A Core Curriculum: 5 Years of Testing*



* Missing columns in above graphs reflect years in which no students were tested.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 1.1. Five Year Trends—Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmarks

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent Who Met Benchmarks									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Met All Four	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2016	6,552	2,090,342	70	61	51	41	53	44	46	36	33	26
2017	6,698	2,030,038	68	61	49	41	54	47	46	37	33	27
2018	6,730	1,914,817	68	60	49	40	54	46	46	36	32	27
2019	6,374	1,782,820	66	59	47	39	52	45	45	36	30	26
2020	6,049	1,670,497	67	58	48	37	53	45	44	36	31	26

Table 1.2. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores

Year	Number of Students Tested		Average ACT Scores									
	State	National	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
			State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2016	6,552	2,090,342	20.9	20.1	21.7	20.6	22.4	21.3	22.2	20.8	21.9	20.8
2017	6,698	2,030,038	20.7	20.3	21.5	20.7	22.3	21.4	22.0	21.0	21.8	21.0
2018	6,730	1,914,817	20.8	20.2	21.6	20.5	22.4	21.3	22.2	20.7	21.9	20.8
2019	6,374	1,782,820	20.7	20.1	21.3	20.4	22.2	21.2	21.9	20.6	21.6	20.7
2020	6,049	1,670,497	20.7	19.9	21.5	20.2	22.4	21.2	21.9	20.6	21.7	20.6

Table 1.3. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores Nationwide

Year	Number of Students Tested	Average ACT Scores				
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
2016	2,090,342	20.1	20.6	21.3	20.8	20.8
2017	2,030,038	20.3	20.7	21.4	21.0	21.0
2018	1,914,817	20.2	20.5	21.3	20.7	20.8
2019	1,782,820	20.1	20.4	21.2	20.6	20.7
2020	1,670,497	19.9	20.2	21.2	20.6	20.6

Table 1.4. Five Year Trends—Average ACT Scores by Level of Preparation

Year	Number of Students Tested		Percent ²		Average ACT Scores									
	Core or More ¹	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite	
					Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core	Core or More	Less than Core
2016	5,714	729	87	11	21.4	18.0	22.1	19.0	22.8	19.9	22.5	19.8	22.3	19.3
2017	5,769	757	86	11	21.3	17.8	22.0	19.1	22.8	19.7	22.5	19.7	22.3	19.2
2018	5,868	662	87	10	21.3	18.0	22.0	19.1	22.8	20.0	22.6	19.9	22.3	19.4
2019	5,469	703	86	11	21.2	18.2	21.7	19.1	22.7	20.2	22.3	19.8	22.1	19.5
2020	5,155	683	85	11	21.3	18.5	21.9	19.4	22.8	20.5	22.3	20.1	22.2	19.8

¹"Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

²Percent of all students tested. Numbers will not add up to 100% due to student non-response.

Table 1.5. Five Year Trends—Percent and Average Composite Score by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020		
	N	%	Avg												
All Students	6,552	100	21.9	6,698	100	21.8	6,730	100	21.9	6,374	100	21.6	6,049	100	21.7
Black/African American	96	1	18.4	120	2	18.0	116	2	18.0	125	2	17.7	103	2	18.2
American Indian/Alaska Native	458	7	16.5	509	8	16.4	439	7	16.2	535	8	16.0	410	7	15.9
White	5,179	79	22.6	5,249	78	22.6	5,226	78	22.7	4,827	76	22.5	4,754	79	22.5
Hispanic/Latino	230	4	20.1	232	3	20.0	291	4	19.7	240	4	20.0	231	4	20.3
Asian	109	2	21.2	97	1	21.7	109	2	20.6	113	2	21.8	104	2	21.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	8	0	19.3	3	0	14.0	5	0	17.2	3	0	19.7	4	0	18.3
Two or more races	293	4	20.6	294	4	20.6	323	5	21.0	312	5	20.9	259	4	20.5
Prefer not to respond/No response	179	3	22.1	194	3	21.3	221	3	21.5	219	3	22.0	184	3	21.4

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 1.6. Five Year Trends—Achievement in STEM¹

Year	All Tested Students						Students Meeting STEM Benchmarks			
	Number of Students Tested		Avg. STEM Score		Percent Meeting STEM Benchmark		Avg. Mathematics Score		Avg. Science Score	
	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National
2016	6,552	2,090,342	22.2	20.9	23	20	27.9	28.7	28.3	28.6
2017	6,698	2,030,038	22.0	21.1	23	21	27.9	28.7	28.2	28.7
2018	6,730	1,914,817	22.1	20.9	24	20	27.9	28.8	28.4	28.8
2019	6,374	1,782,820	21.8	20.7	22	20	28.1	28.9	28.5	29.0
2020	6,049	1,670,497	21.9	20.6	23	20	28.1	28.9	28.4	29.1

¹The STEM score describes students' overall proficiency in mathematics and science.

Table 1.7. Proficiency In Understanding Complex Texts¹

Year	Text Complexity Proficiency Level																	
	Below Proficient						Proficient						Above Proficient					
	N		Percent		Avg. Reading		N		Percent		Avg. Reading		N		Percent		Avg. Reading	
State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	State	National	
2016	2,152	485,762	33	23	17.5	17.0	1,527	322,548	23	15	23.5	23.6	920	235,380	14	11	29.6	30.3
2017	2,879	999,708	43	49	17.3	16.2	2,351	596,096	35	29	23.5	23.4	1,442	427,075	22	21	30.3	30.8
2018	3,088	1,010,339	46	53	17.5	16.3	2,227	492,937	33	26	23.9	23.6	1,415	411,541	21	21	30.7	31.0
2019	2,973	950,826	47	53	17.4	16.2	1,969	455,611	31	26	23.6	23.6	1,432	376,383	22	21	30.5	31.0
2020	2,738	903,921	45	54	17.4	16.1	1,847	398,982	31	24	23.5	23.6	1,464	367,594	24	22	30.4	31.1

¹The text complexity indicator, beginning in Fall 2015, represents students' progress toward understanding complex written material often encountered in college and careers.

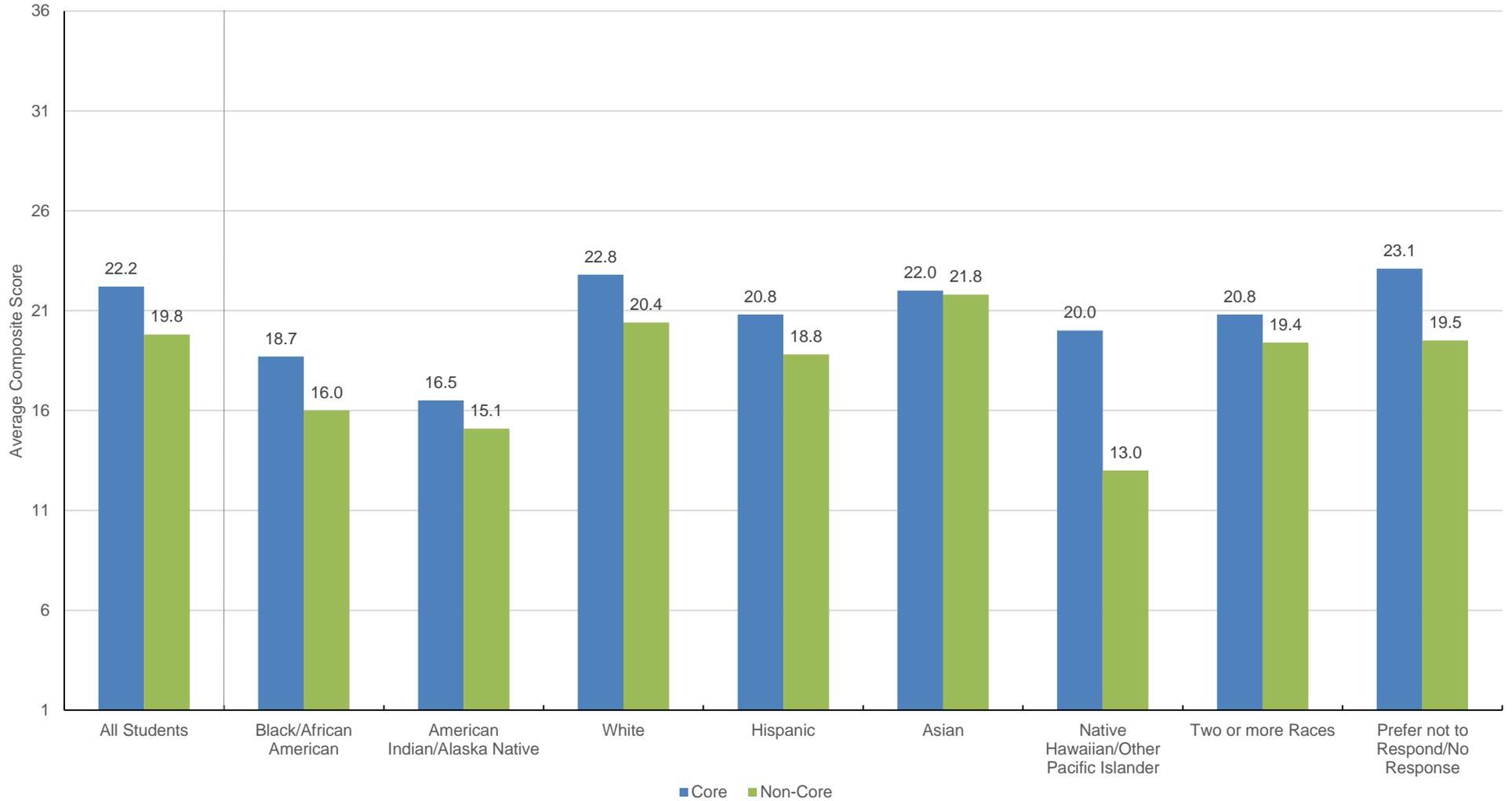
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Section II

Academic Achievement

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Figure 2.1. Average ACT Composite Scores by Race and Core Curriculum Status*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and core course-taking status in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 2.1. ACT Score Distributions, Cumulative Percents (CP¹), and Score Averages

ACT Scale Score	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite		STEM		ELA ²		ACT Scale Score
	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	N	CP	
36	48	100	10	100	94	100	32	100	4	100	13	100	0	100	36
35	99	99	29	99	105	98	38	99	26	99	27	99	0	100	35
34	86	98	34	99	160	97	64	99	32	99	31	99	1	100	34
33	86	96	47	99	148	94	77	98	76	99	52	99	7	99	33
32	107	95	52	98	161	92	70	97	91	98	56	98	15	99	32
31	87	93	61	97	166	89	87	95	125	96	100	97	25	97	31
30	103	92	123	96	192	86	92	94	153	94	121	95	31	94	30
29	99	90	152	94	55	83	133	92	137	92	148	93	43	90	29
28	154	88	230	92	214	82	164	90	224	89	204	91	35	84	28
27	120	86	304	88	218	79	208	87	245	86	285	88	34	79	27
26	211	84	395	83	172	75	253	84	278	82	338	83	27	75	26
25	278	80	417	76	305	72	389	80	345	77	420	77	37	71	25
24	358	76	408	69	371	67	563	73	417	71	443	70	41	67	24
23	356	70	386	63	376	61	470	64	378	64	417	63	55	61	23
22	385	64	284	56	485	55	491	56	447	58	417	56	61	54	22
21	491	57	256	52	337	47	508	48	424	51	453	49	52	46	21
20	397	49	360	47	335	41	420	40	457	44	431	42	46	39	20
19	321	43	344	41	412	36	472	33	436	36	482	35	49	33	19
18	261	37	402	36	356	29	359	25	445	29	430	27	44	27	18
17	257	33	546	29	317	23	326	19	358	22	414	20	27	21	17
16	412	29	550	20	223	18	300	14	305	16	330	13	28	18	16
15	379	22	349	11	243	14	150	9	258	11	199	7	31	14	15
14	267	16	220	5	210	10	143	6	194	6	129	4	20	10	14
13	197	11	55	1	157	7	92	4	109	3	70	2	24	7	13
12	150	8	23	1	127	4	56	2	54	1	20	1	16	4	12
11	157	6	7	1	60	2	54	2	22	1	15	1	7	2	11
10	107	3	3	1	28	1	17	1	5	1	2	1	4	1	10
9	39	1	1	1	10	1	12	1	4	1	2	1	1	1	9
8	18	1	1	1	9	1	5	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	8
7	16	1	0	1	3	1	3	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	7
6	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	6
5	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	5
4	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	4
3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	2
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
Avg (SD)	20.7 (6.2)		21.5 (5.0)		22.4 (6.2)		21.9 (5.0)		21.7 (5.1)		21.9 (4.7)		22.1 (5.5)		Avg (SD)

¹ CP is the cumulative percent of students at or below a score point.

² ELA scores are derived only for students with a valid writing score.

Note: Shaded portions of columns identify the students who met/exceeded the ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores.

Figure 2.2. English Reporting Categories

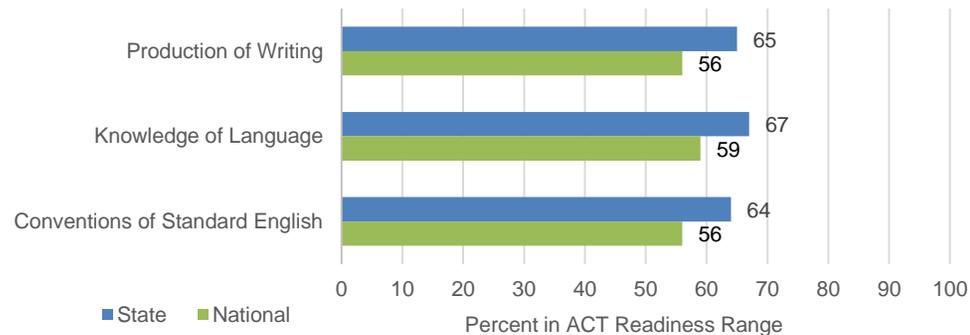


Figure 2.3. Math Reporting Categories

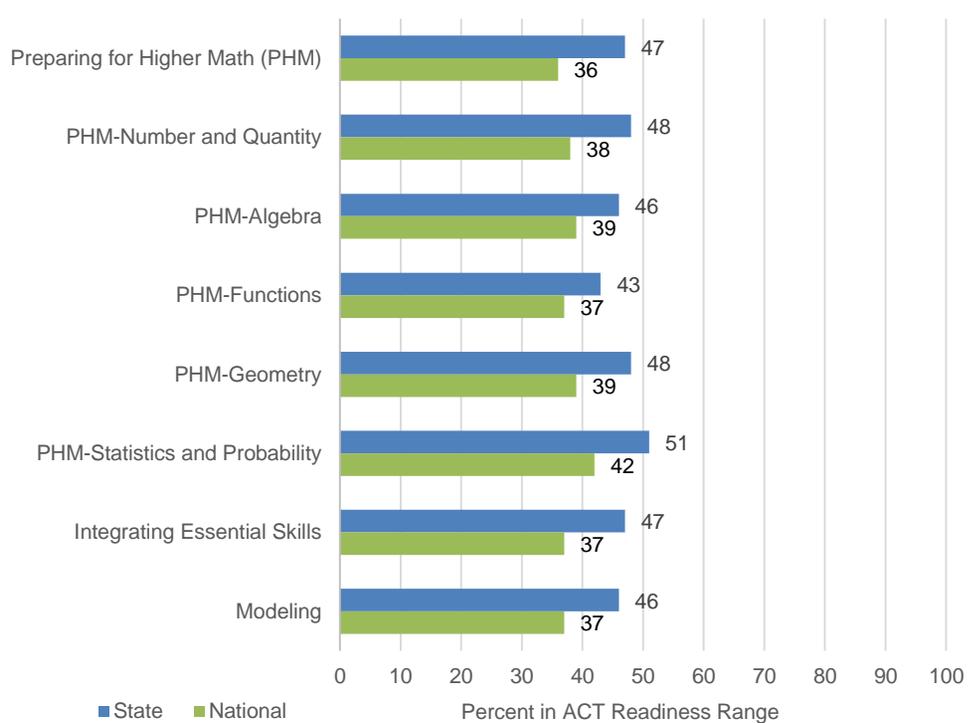


Figure 2.4. Reading Reporting Categories

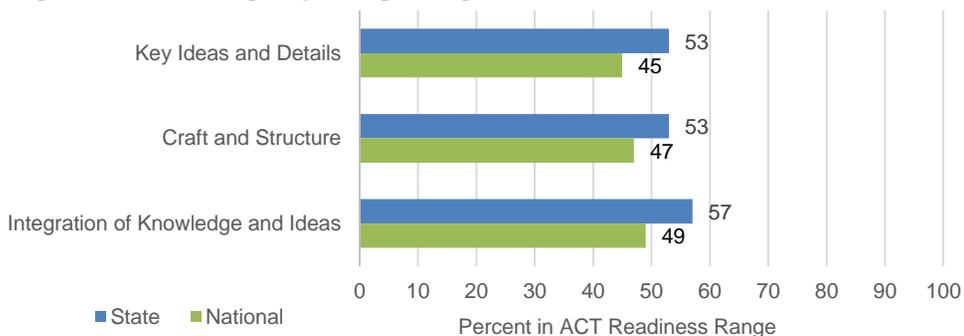
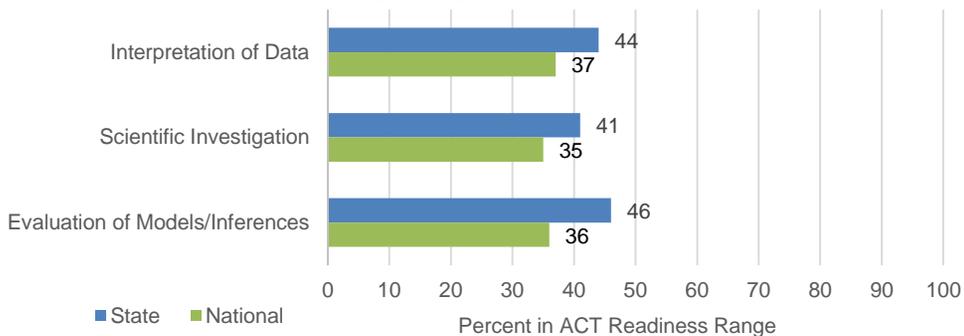


Figure 2.5. Science Reporting Categories



The charts on this page show the percent of students whose reporting category scores fall within associated ACT Readiness Ranges. ACT Readiness Ranges reflect where a student who has met a particular subject area's ACT College Readiness Benchmark would typically perform within the associated reporting category.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 2.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Race/Ethnicity by Level of Preparation

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More ¹	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	All Students	6,049	85	22.2	19.8
	Black/African American	103	81	18.7	16.0
	American Indian/Alaska Native	410	70	16.5	15.1
	White	4,754	88	22.8	20.4
	Hispanic/Latino	231	84	20.8	18.8
	Asian	104	84	22.0	21.8
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4	75	20.0	13.0
	Two or More Races	259	83	20.8	19.4
	Prefer not/No Response	184	59	23.1	19.5
National	All Students	1,670,497	56	22.3	19.2
	Black/African American	203,517	51	17.9	15.9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14,597	45	18.1	16.1
	White	860,496	61	23.4	20.4
	Hispanic/Latino	277,796	54	20.0	17.5
	Asian	78,707	71	26.1	23.5
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4,726	45	19.6	16.6
	Two or More Races	76,782	57	22.5	19.5
	Prefer not/No Response	153,876	28	23.2	18.8

¹ "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

Table 2.3. Average ACT Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	All Students	6,049	100	20.7	21.5	22.4	21.9	21.7	21.9
	Black/African American	103	2	16.8	17.8	18.6	19.1	18.2	18.7
	American Indian/Alaska Native	410	7	13.8	16.1	17.0	16.3	15.9	16.5
	White	4,754	79	21.6	22.2	23.1	22.6	22.5	22.6
	Hispanic/Latino	231	4	19.1	20.0	21.4	20.4	20.3	20.4
	Asian	104	2	20.5	22.5	21.9	22.1	21.9	22.5
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4	0	17.3	19.3	18.0	18.3	18.3	19.0
	Two or More Races	259	4	19.3	20.1	21.3	20.5	20.5	20.6
	Prefer not/No Response	184	3	20.3	20.8	22.4	21.5	21.4	21.4
National	All Students	1,670,497	100	19.9	20.2	21.2	20.6	20.6	20.6
	Black/African American	203,517	12	15.6	16.7	17.0	16.9	16.7	17.0
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14,597	1	15.2	16.9	17.2	17.1	16.7	17.2
	White	860,496	52	21.5	21.4	22.7	21.9	22.0	21.9
	Hispanic/Latino	277,796	17	17.4	18.5	19.0	18.7	18.5	18.8
	Asian	78,707	5	24.5	25.2	24.8	24.5	24.9	25.1
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4,726	0	16.3	17.8	17.8	17.7	17.5	18.0
	Two or More Races	76,782	5	20.2	20.3	21.7	20.8	20.9	20.8
	Prefer not/No Response	153,876	9	18.8	19.5	20.3	19.7	19.7	19.9

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 2.4. Average ACT Composite Scores for Gender by Level of Preparation

Student Group	Gender ¹	Number of Students Tested	Percent Taking Core or More ²	Average ACT Composite Score	
				Core or More	Less Than Core
State	Males	2,606	85	22.5	20.0
	Females	3,429	86	22.0	19.6
	Other Responses	14	57	23.6	25.0
National	Males	773,062	53	22.5	18.8
	Females	863,356	59	22.2	19.5
	Other Responses	34,079	11	20.2	17.4

Table 2.5. Average ACT Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender ¹	N	Percent	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite	STEM
State	Males	2,606	43	20.4	22.2	22.3	22.5	22.0	22.6
	Females	3,429	57	21.0	20.9	22.5	21.4	21.6	21.4
	Other Responses	14	0	21.4	20.2	22.4	22.2	21.6	21.5
National	Males	773,062	46	19.3	20.6	20.8	20.7	20.5	20.9
	Females	863,356	52	20.5	20.0	21.6	20.5	20.8	20.5
	Other Responses	34,079	2	16.8	17.8	18.2	18.0	17.8	18.1

Table 2.6. ACT Score Quartile Values

Quartile	English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	Composite
Q3 (75th Percentile)	24	25	27	25	25
Q2 (50th Percentile)	21	21	22	22	21
Q1 (25th Percentile)	16	17	18	18	18

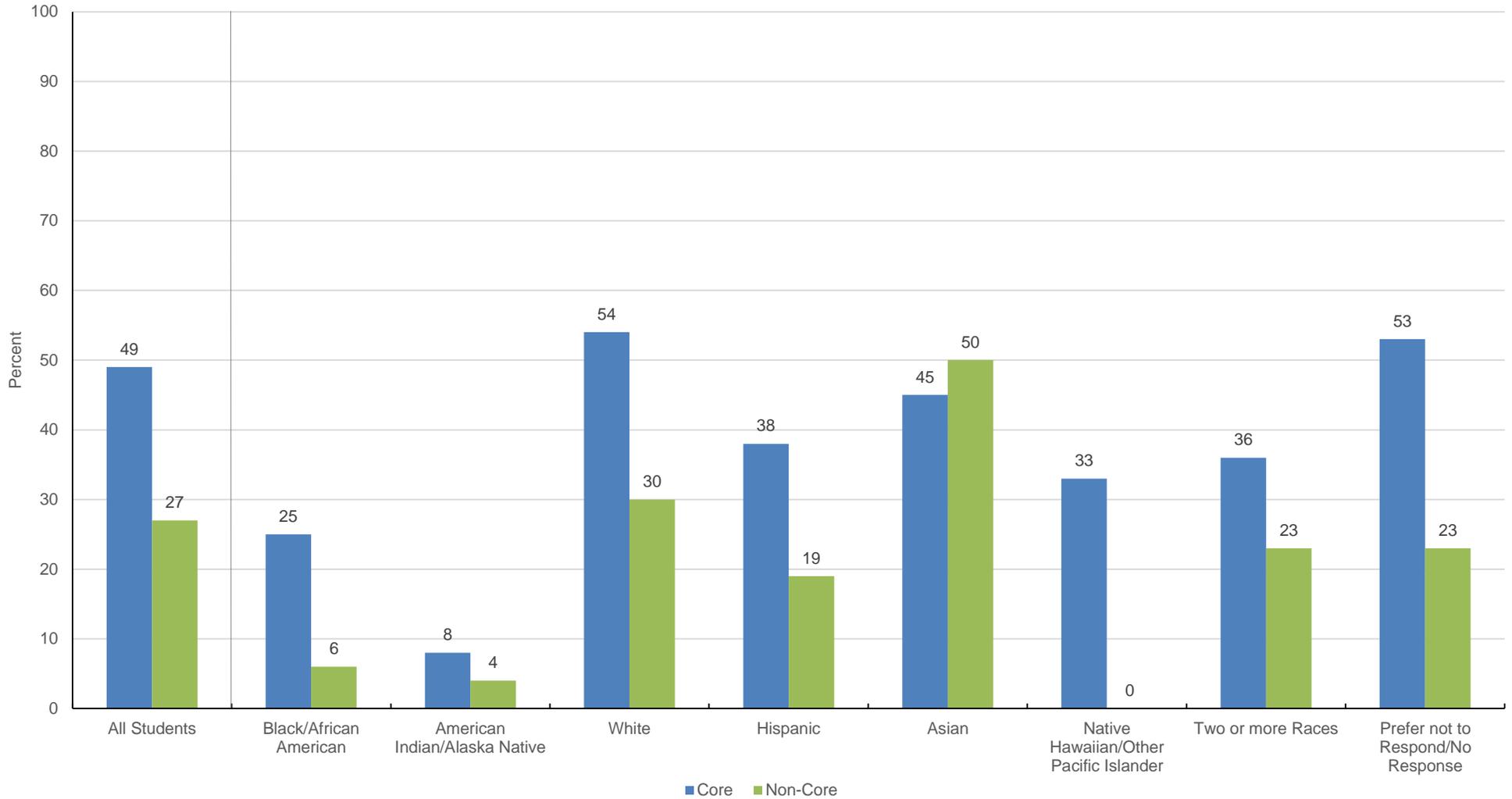
¹ 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

² "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

Section III

College and Career Readiness and the Impact of Course Rigor

Figure 3.1. Percent of Students Meeting 3 or 4 College Readiness Benchmarks by Core College Curriculum Status*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and core course-taking status in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 3.1. Percent of Students in College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) Score Ranges

Student Group	CCRS Range	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
State	33 to 36	319	5	120	2	507	8	211	3
	28 to 32	550	9	618	10	788	13	546	9
	24 to 27	967	16	1,524	25	1,066	18	1,413	23
	20 to 23	1,629	27	1,286	21	1,533	25	1,889	31
	16 to 19	1,251	21	1,842	30	1,308	22	1,457	24
	13 to 15	843	14	624	10	610	10	385	6
	01 to 12	490	8	35	1	237	4	148	2
National	33 to 36	128,776	8	53,713	3	154,645	9	73,974	4
	28 to 32	140,249	8	149,659	9	192,435	12	131,409	8
	24 to 27	214,082	13	287,846	17	213,955	13	287,207	17
	20 to 23	348,288	21	257,908	15	357,401	21	397,814	24
	16 to 19	283,787	17	548,665	33	334,911	20	448,915	27
	13 to 15	271,234	16	343,986	21	235,025	14	204,649	12
	01 to 12	284,081	17	28,720	2	182,125	11	126,529	8

Table 3.2. Percent of Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Gender

Student Group	Gender ¹	Percent of Students				Met All Four
		English	Mathematics	Reading	Science	
State	Males	65	55	52	48	34
	Females	69	44	54	40	28
	Other Responses	57	36	43	36	36
National	Males	54	40	42	38	27
	Females	62	36	47	35	25
	Other Responses	39	19	27	20	12

¹ 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 3.3. Percent of Students Who Met ACT College Readiness Benchmark Scores by Race/Ethnicity

Student Group	Race/Ethnicity	N	English %	Mathematics %	Reading %	Science %	All Four %	STEM %
State	All Students	6,049	67	48	53	44	31	23
	Black/African American	103	38	19	28	19	12	9
	American Indian/Alaska Native	410	18	6	18	8	3	2
	White	4,754	73	54	58	49	34	25
	Hispanic/Latino	231	55	35	46	34	22	15
	Asian	104	62	54	43	42	35	32
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4	25	50	25	25	25	0
	Two or More Races	259	56	37	45	32	24	14
	Prefer Not to Respond	184	63	43	51	39	33	24
National	All Students	1,670,497	58	37	45	36	26	20
	Black/African American	203,517	30	12	19	12	6	4
	American Indian/Alaska Native	14,597	28	13	20	13	7	4
	White	860,496	69	46	54	45	33	25
	Hispanic/Latino	277,796	43	24	31	22	14	10
	Asian	78,707	77	69	64	61	52	48
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	4,726	35	20	25	18	12	9
	Two or More Races	76,782	60	37	47	37	26	20
	Prefer Not to Respond	153,876	49	32	39	31	23	19

Table 3.4. Likely ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) Level Based Upon ACT Composite Score¹

Student Group	ACT NCRC Level	N	%	Average Composite
State	Platinum	1,113	18	29.5
	Gold	1,865	31	23.8
	Silver	2,120	35	19.1
	Bronze	866	14	14.9
	Needs Improvement	85	1	11.5
National	Platinum	303,094	18	30.2
	Gold	371,036	22	23.8
	Silver	498,074	30	18.9
	Bronze	403,248	24	14.6
	Needs Improvement	95,045	6	11.4

¹ The ACT Composite scores associated with at least a 50% chance of earning each ACT NCRC level or higher are: 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 22 for Gold, and 27 for Platinum. Based on those cut scores, students who earned an ACT Composite score of less than 13 are classified as 'Needs improvement' as they are unlikely to obtain an ACT NCRC. Students with an ACT Composite score of 13 to 16 are classified as 'Bronze' as they are likely to obtain a Bronze NCRC, 17 to 21 as 'Silver', 22 to 26 as 'Gold', and 27 or above as 'Platinum'.

Visit www.act.org/NCRC-indicator to learn more.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 3.5. College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Overall High School Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	N	English		Mathematics		Reading		Science		Composite ⁴		STEM	
			%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg	%	Avg
State	Core or More ²	5,155	71	21.3	52	21.9	56	22.8	47	22.3	34	22.2	25	22.3
	Less than Core	683	49	18.5	31	19.4	39	20.5	27	20.1	16	19.8	12	20.0
	Missing ³	211	27	15.3	18	17.1	23	17.9	14	17.8	10	17.2	8	17.7
National	Core or More	928,969	71	21.9	49	21.7	55	23.0	46	22.1	35	22.3	27	22.2
	Less than Core	316,044	47	18.3	27	18.9	35	19.7	26	19.2	18	19.2	13	19.3
	Missing	425,484	37	16.5	20	17.9	28	18.4	21	18.1	13	17.9	9	18.3

¹ "Curriculum Taken" reflects overall high school curriculum in this table.

² "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English AND three or more years each of math, social studies, and natural science.

³ Zero years or no coursework information reported in one or more content areas.

⁴ Composite College Readiness Benchmark % results reflect students who met all four subject-area benchmarks.

Table 3.6. College Readiness Benchmark Percent and Average ACT Scores by Content-Specific Curriculum

Student Group	Curriculum Taken ¹	N	English			Mathematics			Reading			Science		
			%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	N	%	Avg	
State	Core or More ²	5,651	69	21.0	5,680	51	21.8	5,726	55	22.6	5,530	46	22.1	
	Less than Core	193	54	18.5	161	11	16.8	120	43	20.8	314	28	20.1	
	Missing ³	205	26	15.3	208	18	17.2	203	22	17.9	205	13	17.7	
National	Core or More	1,187,829	66	21.2	1,190,473	45	21.2	1,110,515	52	22.4	1,078,635	44	21.9	
	Less than Core	72,962	34	16.0	63,026	8	16.1	143,537	36	19.8	174,503	20	18.3	
	Missing	409,706	38	16.6	416,998	20	17.9	416,445	28	18.4	417,359	21	18.1	

¹ "Curriculum Taken" reflects content-specific curriculum in this table.

² "Core or More" results correspond to students taking four or more years of English or three or more years of math, social studies, or natural science, respectively.

For instance, Reading "Core or More" results correspond to students taking three or more years of social studies, regardless of courses taken in other content areas.

³ Zero years or no coursework information reported in the specified content area.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 3.7. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	State				National			
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT English	Percent Who Met Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN								
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	1,685	28	21.8	73	257,237	15	22.2	72
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	3,966	66	20.7	67	930,592	56	21.0	65
Less than 4 years of English	193	3	18.5	54	72,962	4	16.0	34
Zero years / no English courses reported	205	3	15.3	26	409,706	25	16.6	38
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Math	Percent Who Met Benchmark
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	248	4	24.2	69	70,252	4	23.2	62
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	425	7	22.4	60	94,371	6	21.5	51
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	278	5	20.1	38	62,504	4	18.8	26
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	1,314	22	21.4	49	248,009	15	19.1	28
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	2,155	36	23.6	66	500,040	30	23.9	64
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	881	15	18.0	17	142,387	9	16.7	9
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	379	6	20.1	35	72,910	4	19.5	32
Less than 3 years of Math	161	3	16.8	11	63,026	4	16.1	8
Zero years / no Math courses reported	208	3	17.2	18	416,998	25	17.9	20
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Reading	Percent Who Met Benchmark
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	21	0	23.4	67	36,866	2	22.5	52
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	4,247	70	22.9	57	630,097	38	22.9	55
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	92	2	21.3	40	87,562	5	20.0	37
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	1,366	23	21.8	48	355,990	21	22.0	49
Less than 3 years of Social Science	120	2	20.8	43	143,537	9	19.8	36
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	203	3	17.9	22	416,445	25	18.4	28
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN								
	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent Taking Pattern	Avg ACT Science	Percent Who Met Benchmark
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem, & Phys	2,616	43	22.7	51	535,756	32	22.6	50
Bio, Chem, Phys	774	13	23.6	57	159,423	10	23.6	56
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem	1,996	33	20.9	36	347,034	21	20.3	32
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	144	2	21.2	33	36,422	2	19.0	24
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	314	5	20.1	28	174,503	10	18.3	20
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	205	3	17.7	13	417,359	25	18.1	21

¹Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 3.8. College Readiness Benchmark (CRB) Percent and Average ACT Scores for Gender by Common Course Patterns

Course Pattern	Males				Females				Other Responses ¹			
	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark	N	Percent	ACT English	% Who Met Benchmark
ENGLISH COURSE PATTERN												
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12, & Other English	626	24	22.1	74	1,055	31	21.7	72	4	29	18.8	25
Eng 9, Eng 10, Eng 11, Eng 12	1,799	69	20.3	64	2,161	63	21.0	70	6	43	27.2	83
Less than 4 years of English	85	3	18.1	48	108	3	18.8	59	0	0	.	.
Zero years / no English courses reported	96	4	15.2	23	105	3	15.4	29	4	29	15.5	50
MATHEMATICS COURSE PATTERN												
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Calc	114	4	25.0	70	134	4	23.5	68	0	0	.	.
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, Trig, & Other Adv Math	155	6	23.4	71	269	8	21.9	53	1	7	23.0	100
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Trig	114	4	20.7	44	164	5	19.7	34	0	0	.	.
Alg 1, Alg 2, Geom, & Other Adv Math	481	18	22.5	60	830	24	20.8	43	3	21	19.0	0
Other comb of 4 or more years of Math	1,035	40	24.4	70	1,117	33	22.9	62	3	21	28.7	100
Alg 1, Alg 2, & Geom	373	14	18.5	22	505	15	17.6	13	3	21	19.3	33
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Math	166	6	20.2	38	213	6	20.0	32	0	0	.	.
Less than 3 years of Math	70	3	17.0	14	91	3	16.6	8	0	0	.	.
Zero years / no Math courses reported	98	4	17.4	19	106	3	17.2	17	4	29	14.8	0
SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
US Hist, World Hist, Am Gov, & Other Hist	11	0	24.1	73	10	0	22.6	60	0	0	.	.
Other comb of 4 or more years Social Science	1,738	67	22.8	57	2,502	73	22.9	58	7	50	24.0	43
US Hist, World Hist, & Am Gov	54	2	21.0	41	38	1	21.7	39	0	0	.	.
Other comb of 3 or 3.5 years of Social Science	648	25	21.5	46	715	21	22.0	49	3	21	26.0	67
Less than 3 years of Social Science	59	2	21.3	44	61	2	20.4	41	0	0	.	.
Zero years / no Social Science courses reported	96	4	17.9	21	103	3	17.9	23	4	29	16.8	25
NATURAL SCIENCE COURSE PATTERN												
Gen Sci ² , Bio, Chem, & Phys	1,244	48	23.3	55	1,366	40	22.1	47	6	43	23.8	50
Bio, Chem, Phys	328	13	24.3	59	445	13	23.0	55	1	7	16.0	0
Gen Sci ¹ , Bio, Chem	723	28	21.2	40	1,273	37	20.7	33	0	0	.	.
Other comb of 3 years of Natural Science	85	3	21.7	39	58	2	20.2	22	1	7	35.0	100
Less than 3 years of Natural Science	129	5	20.3	29	183	5	19.8	27	2	14	25.5	50
Zero years / no Natural Science courses reported	97	4	18.0	13	104	3	17.6	13	4	29	16.5	0

¹ 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

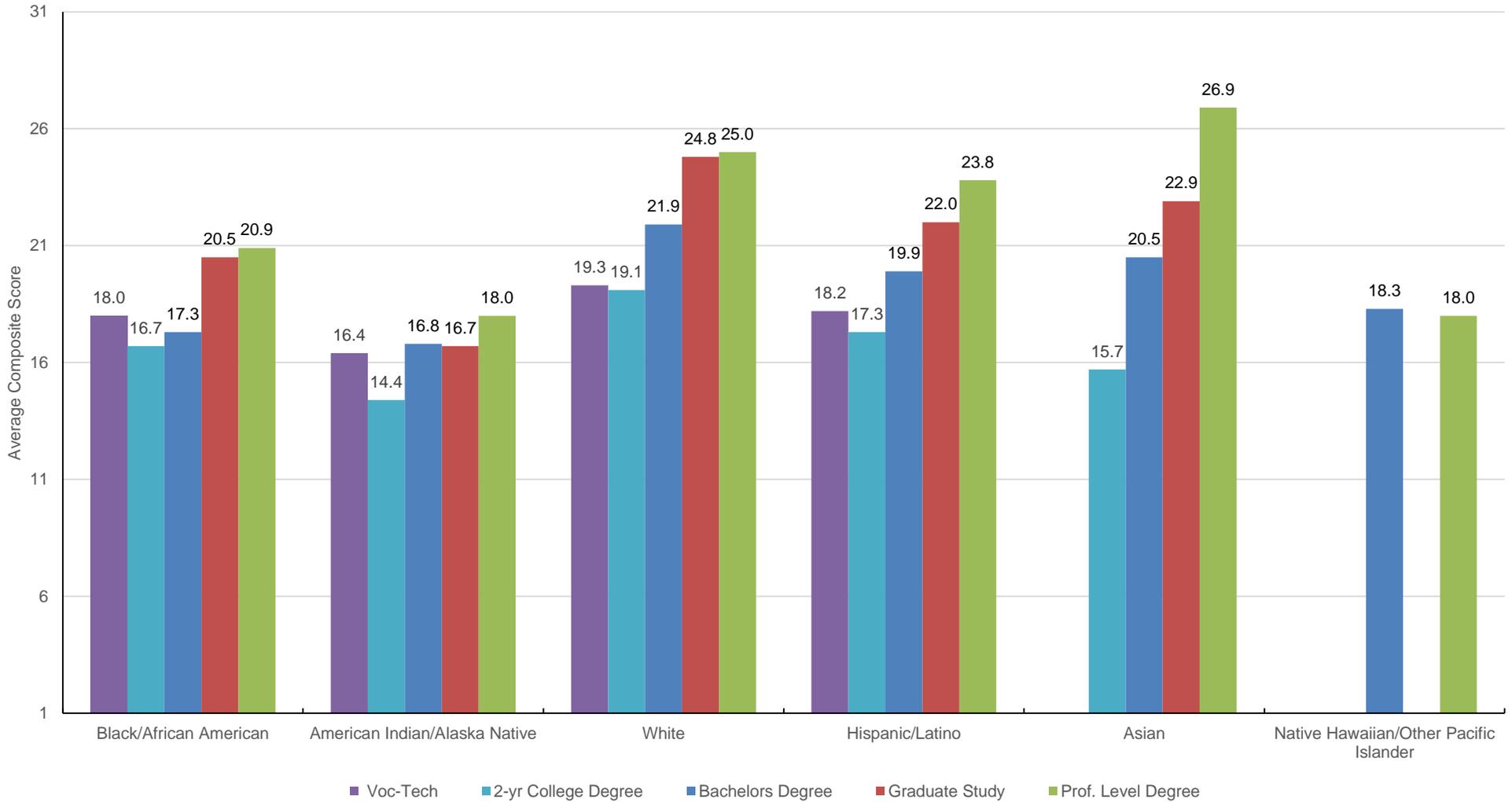
² Includes General, Physical and Earth Sciences.

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Section IV

Career and Educational Aspirations

Figure 4.1. Average ACT Composite Scores by Race and Student Postsecondary Aspirations*



*Missing columns reflect combinations of race/ethnicity and postsecondary aspiration in which one or both indicators are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 4.1. Distribution of Planned Educational Majors for All Students by College Plans

Planned Educational Major	All Students			Plan on 2 Years or Less of College			Plan on 4 Years or More of College		
	N ¹	Percent ²	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent	Avg ACT Comp	N	Percent	Avg ACT Comp
Agriculture & Natural Resources Conservation	236	4	20.8	45	9	18.9	178	4	21.5
Architecture	83	1	22.2	11	2	20.1	71	1	22.6
Area, Ethnic, & Multidisciplinary Studies	8	0	19.9	2	0	17.0	6	0	20.8
Arts: Visual & Performing	233	4	22.2	21	4	18.9	196	4	22.7
Business	440	7	21.2	39	7	19.2	380	8	21.5
Communications	45	1	21.6	3	1	18.3	40	1	21.7
Community, Family, & Personal Services	109	2	19.5	20	4	18.4	84	2	19.7
Computer Science & Mathematics	232	4	23.8	15	3	17.3	211	4	24.4
Education	412	7	20.9	7	1	18.7	387	8	21.0
Engineering	378	6	24.4	23	4	19.2	347	7	24.8
Engineering Technology & Drafting	60	1	20.7	20	4	19.0	34	1	21.9
English & Foreign Languages	60	1	25.0	0	0	.	56	1	25.4
Health Administration & Assisting	195	3	19.0	33	6	17.6	155	3	19.4
Health Sciences & Technologies	1,296	21	21.9	97	19	18.9	1,152	23	22.3
Philosophy, Religion, & Theology	21	0	21.7	1	0	22.0	19	0	21.9
Repair, Production, & Construction	127	2	18.9	79	15	18.9	36	1	20.3
Sciences: Biological & Physical	424	7	24.5	6	1	17.2	413	8	24.7
Social Sciences & Law	369	6	21.9	13	2	19.8	346	7	22.0
Undecided	1,135	19	21.4	84	16	18.9	904	18	22.1
No Response	186	3	17.0	4	1	15.3	9	0	20.4

¹2-Year and 4-Year "N" counts do not reflect "Missing" and "Other" college plans, therefore they may not add up to the N count for All Students.

²Percent of students tested within College Plan groups (All Students, 2-Year, 4-Year).

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 4.2. Average ACT Composite Scores for Racial/Ethnic Groups by Post-Secondary Educational Aspirations

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Black/African American		American Indian/ Alaska Native		White		Hispanic/Latino	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	150	19.2	1	18.0	8	16.4	124	19.3	6	18.2
2-yr College Degree	373	18.6	7	16.7	21	14.4	303	19.1	14	17.3
Bachelors Degree	3,378	21.4	66	17.3	157	16.8	2,775	21.9	133	19.9
Graduate Study	604	24.3	6	20.5	24	16.7	508	24.8	22	22.0
Prof. Level Degree	1,042	24.5	18	20.9	41	18.0	835	25.0	39	23.8
Other	61	18.0	1	25.0	7	13.9	42	18.9	4	15.5
No Response	441	18.4	4	18.5	152	14.6	167	21.6	13	17.4

Educational Degree Aspirations	All Racial/Ethnic Groups Combined		Asian		Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander		Two or more races		Prefer not to respond/ No Response	
	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average	N	Average
Voc-Tech	150	19.2	0	.	0	.	7	21.4	4	19.0
2-yr College Degree	373	18.6	7	15.7	0	.	15	17.0	6	19.5
Bachelors Degree	3,378	21.4	46	20.5	3	18.3	140	20.1	58	22.0
Graduate Study	604	24.3	11	22.9	0	.	20	24.2	13	26.9
Prof. Level Degree	1,042	24.5	27	26.9	1	18.0	51	22.2	30	24.7
Other	61	18.0	1	14.0	0	.	4	19.3	2	14.0
No Response	441	18.4	12	19.3	0	.	22	17.5	71	19.0

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 4.3. Students' Score Report Preferences at Time of Testing

Name	State	Number of Students			Percent of Students in College Readiness Standards Ranges						
		Total	1st Choice	2nd-6th Choice	01-12	13-15	16-19	20-23	24-27	28-32	33-36
SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	1,885	909	976	0	7	23	32	23	13	2
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA	South Dakota	1,419	502	917	0	6	24	31	26	12	1
BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	547	194	353	3	10	33	29	18	6	1
NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	422	169	253	1	8	26	33	20	11	1
AUGUSTANA UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	415	117	298	1	4	13	28	30	21	2
SOUTH DAKOTA SCH OF MINES/TECH	South Dakota	404	160	244	0	2	11	24	33	24	6
DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	396	174	222	0	8	26	29	23	12	2
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES	Minnesota	340	82	258	0	2	10	24	29	30	5
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT LINCOLN	Nebraska	340	73	267	0	1	12	25	34	24	4
UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS	South Dakota	339	70	269	0	10	30	25	24	10	1
LAKE AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	318	134	184	1	15	39	28	14	3	0
SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	306	114	192	2	17	38	29	11	4	0
MITCHELL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	222	77	145	3	12	48	25	11	2	0
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY	North Dakota	202	56	146	0	2	22	33	27	13	2
DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	South Dakota	195	70	125	2	8	37	31	17	5	0
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY MANKATO	Minnesota	135	25	110	0	4	24	34	23	15	0
WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE	South Dakota	109	44	65	6	24	33	27	8	2	1
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY	Arizona	108	29	79	1	8	19	37	21	11	3
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY	Iowa	87	14	73	0	5	13	18	31	28	6
NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER	Indiana	83	37	46	0	6	17	28	37	10	2
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS	Minnesota	83	28	55	1	14	39	19	16	11	0
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY	Nebraska	79	20	59	0	3	8	25	25	32	8
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	Iowa	78	13	65	0	1	12	27	35	19	6
HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY	Kansas	72	33	39	10	47	31	10	3	0	0
MOUNT MARTY COLLEGE	South Dakota	72	15	57	1	3	29	35	21	10	1
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY	Colorado	67	18	49	0	6	19	24	36	12	3
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING	Wyoming	67	15	52	0	1	19	33	36	10	0
GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY	Arizona	63	20	43	0	2	33	43	16	5	2
CHADRON STATE COLLEGE	Nebraska	62	26	36	3	15	31	27	21	3	0
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA	North Dakota	62	17	45	0	6	19	29	31	13	2
All Other Institutions		2,750	712	2,038	2	8	19	25	21	20	6
Total		11,727	3,967	7,760	1	8	23	28	23	15	3

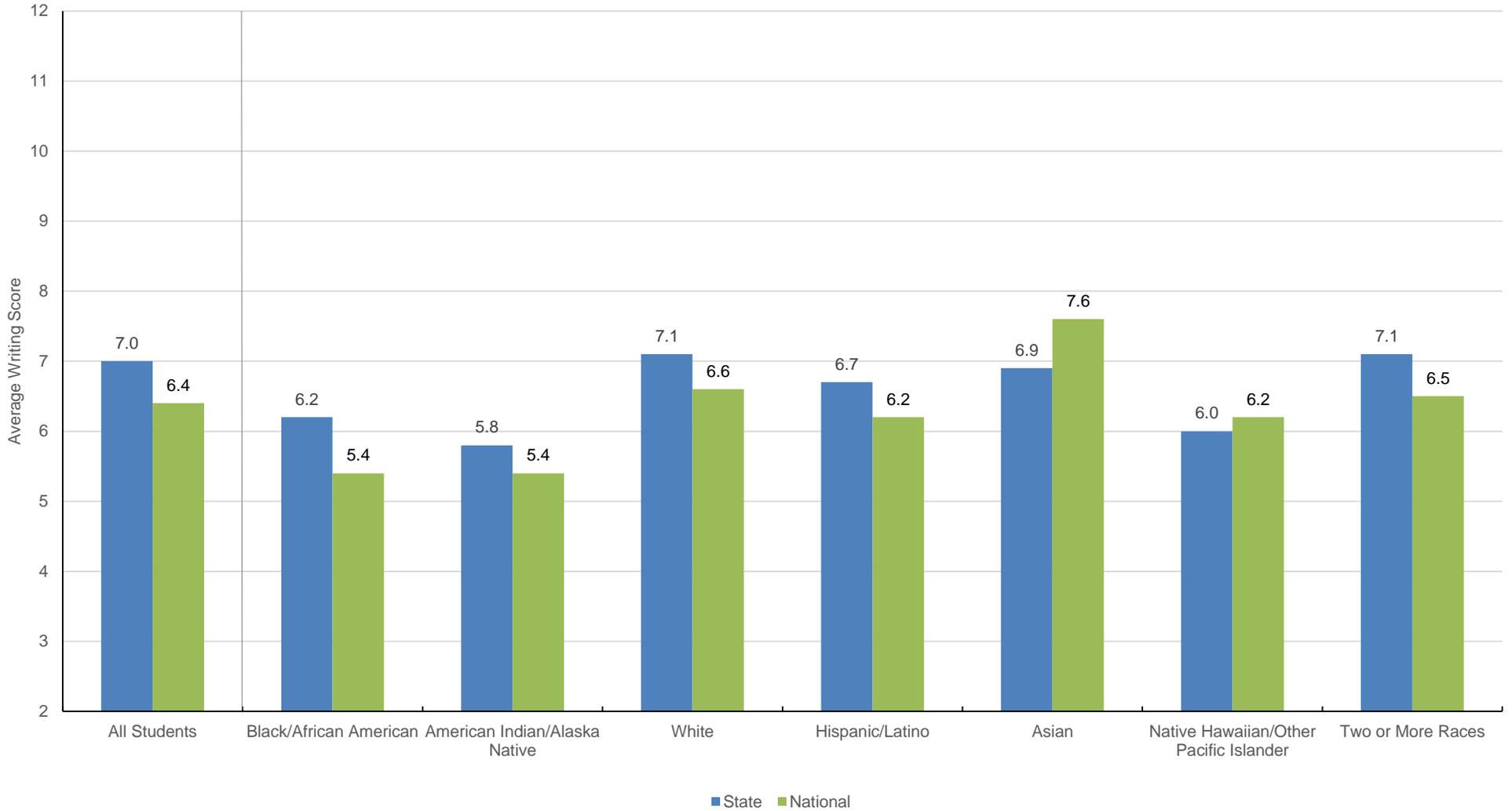
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Section V

Optional Writing Test Results

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Figure 5.1. Average ACT Writing Scores by Race/Ethnicity*



*Missing columns reflect race/ethnicity groupings that are missing.

Total Students in Report: 6,049

Table 5.1. Average ACT English Language Arts Constituent Scores by Race/Ethnicity and Gender¹ for Students Who Took ACT Writing

	N		Average ACT Scores					
			English		Reading		Writing	
			State	National	State	National	State	National
All Students	764	678,906	22.9	19.7	24.6	21.2	7.0	6.4
Black/African American	19	74,291	19.5	15.1	20.4	16.8	6.2	5.4
American Indian/Alaska Native	57	7,366	13.9	14.7	17.3	16.8	5.8	5.4
White	553	307,363	24.2	21.4	25.8	22.9	7.1	6.6
Hispanic/Latino	40	141,739	21.5	17.2	23.0	18.9	6.7	6.2
Asian	20	45,859	23.0	25.2	24.0	25.5	6.9	7.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1	3,097	12.0	15.6	12.0	17.2	6.0	6.2
Two or More Races	47	36,155	21.9	20.1	23.4	21.7	7.1	6.5
Prefer not/No Response	27	63,036	23.2	19.2	24.1	20.7	7.3	6.2
Males	302	317,885	23.0	19.2	25.1	20.8	6.9	6.1
Females	458	349,314	22.8	20.3	24.3	21.6	7.1	6.7
Other Responses	4	11,707	28.0	16.1	28.3	18.0	7.5	5.5

Table 5.2. Average ACT English Language Arts Outcomes by Race/Ethnicity and Gender¹ for Students Who Took ACT Writing

	N		Average ACT Scores			
			Average ELA Score		Percent Who Met ELA Benchmark	
			State	National	State	National
All Students	764	678,906	22.1	19.1	67	45
Black/African American	19	74,291	18.5	14.9	42	18
American Indian/Alaska Native	57	7,366	15.2	14.9	14	15
White	553	307,363	23.0	20.5	75	55
Hispanic/Latino	40	141,739	20.7	17.3	63	32
Asian	20	45,859	21.7	23.7	60	72
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1	3,097	13.0	16.2	0	24
Two or More Races	47	36,155	21.5	19.6	57	47
Prefer not/No Response	27	63,036	22.4	18.5	52	41
Males	302	317,885	22.1	18.4	67	41
Females	458	349,314	22.0	19.8	67	49
Other Responses	4	11,707	25.0	15.8	75	24

¹ 'Other Responses' include 'Another Gender', 'Prefer Not to Respond', and missing values.

